

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1112
By Sands

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Janey Walters and celebrate her being recognized with the Mary Catherine Strobel Award for Direct Service Volunteer of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those citizens who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Mrs. Walters has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order; as an exceptional asset to her community, she recently received the Mary Catherine Strobel Award for Direct Service Volunteer of the Year; and

WHEREAS, the prestigious, statewide award, presented by the Strobel family, has been given for the past sixteen years in memory of Mrs. Strobel who, as a young widow with four small children, became the first woman employee of the Nashville Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walters began her career as a volunteer in 1955 when she attended the Bethel Home Demonstration Club with her mother-in-law; at the Club, she volunteered to

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serve as a leader with the 4-H program at Santa Fe School, a position which she would hold for the next twenty-three years; and

WHEREAS, another goal of the Home Demonstration Club was to provide volunteers to work at the Maury County Hospital; in 1955, Mrs. Walters began her service at the hospital, and she has not neglected her duties during the forty-seven years that have followed; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters has become a fixture of the Maury Regional Hospital Auxiliary, providing support to the medical professionals and comfort to the patients; and

WHEREAS, over the past forty-seven years, she has worked at the information desk, gift shop, same-day surgery, surgery lounge, outpatient center, and many other areas of the hospital; she has also made vests for the male volunteers, altered the men's jackets, baked countless cakes for the staff, made bears for the emergency room, and Christmas stockings for the newborns; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walters celebrated her 80th birthday in December and remains an active volunteer at the hospital, driving twenty miles one-way each time she faithfully reports to work; and

WHEREAS, she currently works two days a week in outpatient surgery, two days a month in the surgery lounge, and two days each month in the Medical Office Building; as of December 2001, she has given more than 20,000 hours of her time to the hospital; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters was also instrumental in organizing the first Candy Striper program for the hospital and served as an adult leader until 1995; she has made an immeasurable impact on numerous young lives; and

WHEREAS, Dee White, the Director of Volunteer Services, for the hospital said, "It is not uncommon for a Junior Volunteer to inquire, on behalf of a mother or grandmother, about Janey. They also share stories of things Janey did or said so long ago that influenced them or their family, in their career path, or along the path of life...Janey is one of those people who is always doing for others, expecting nothing in return. Every hour donated has been done with

pure joy. She certainly exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism through forty-seven years of service to the same organization"; and

WHEREAS, Maury Regional Hospital Administrator, William Walter, commented, "Janey Walters is very deserving of this award. She has made significant contributions to Maury Regional Hospital over the last forty-seven years. Her spirit of volunteerism, as well as the spirit of the entire Maury Regional Hospital Auxiliary, exemplifies the purpose and mission of our institution"; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Baxter, MRH Assistant Administrator, stated, "It is a wonderful recognition that Janey has received and even more meaningful because everyone knows she so richly deserves it. For years, Maury County has had the privilege of benefiting from her volunteerism, but now she has been recognized statewide for her caring and loving spirit"; and

WHEREAS, the concern she shows for her friends and neighbors is also visible in all other facets of her life, as she has devoted considerable time and talent to the ministries of her church and the programs of the Senior Citizens Center of Maury County; and

WHEREAS, her remarkable success as a community servant is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters is a an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated citizen and reliable friend and neighbor in Maury County; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Wilson is wholly devoted to the highest standards of family and community values and cherishes the love and companionship she shared with her late husband, Maxie, who also volunteered at the hospital for seventeen years serving in the Admissions Office after taking a well-deserved retirement from Occidental Chemical Company; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters is also the dedicated and proud mother of six children, two of whom are registered nurses; and

WHEREAS, Janey Walters is wholly committed to the noble precepts that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and thank Janey Walters for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee and join in celebrating her receipt of the Mary Catherine Strobel Award for Direct Service Volunteer of the Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we wish her much continued success and happiness in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.